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Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

(for the period from 2 December 2006 to 6 June 2007)

I. Introduction

1. The present report gives an account of the activities of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) during the past six months pursuant to the mandate contained in Security Council resolution 350 (1974) and extended in subsequent resolutions, most recently resolution 1729 (2006) of 15 December 2006.

II. Situation in the area and activities of the Force

2. During the period under review the ceasefire in the Israel-Syria sector was maintained and the UNDOF area of operation remained generally quiet. UNDOF supervised the area of separation by means of fixed positions and patrols to ensure that military forces of either party were excluded from it. The Force also carried out fortnightly inspections of equipment and force levels in the areas of limitation. Liaison officers from the party concerned accompanied the inspection teams. UNDOF monitored increased patrolling of the area between the ceasefire line and the technical fence by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). As in the past, both sides denied inspection teams access to some of their positions and imposed restrictions on the Force's freedom of movement. Israeli national Customs officials continued to operate at the IDF post at the UNDOF crossing gate between the Israeli-occupied Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

3. The Force continued to assist the International Committee of the Red Cross with the passage of persons through the area of separation. During the past six months, UNDOF assisted in the crossing of 33 students and one bride. Between 26 February and 30 April, UNDOF also facilitated the transfer of 6,946 tons of apples through the area of separation from the Israeli side to the Syrian side. In addition, the Force assisted in the handover from IDF to the Syrian authorities of one Syrian civilian who had crossed into the Israeli-occupied Golan.

4. In the area of operation, especially in the area of separation, mines continued to pose a threat to UNDOF personnel and local inhabitants. Owing to the age of the mines and their deteriorating explosives, this threat has increased. UNDOF continued to carry out operational mine clearance. UNDOF remained available to

07-36449 (E) 050607

support the United Nations Children's Fund in activities to promote mine awareness among the civilian population.

5. The Force Commander and his staff maintained close contact with the military authorities of Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic. Both sides generally cooperated with the Force in the execution of its tasks.

6. As at 31 May 2007, UNDOF comprised 1,047 troops, from Austria (378), Canada (2), India (190), Japan (30), Poland (352) and Slovakia (95). A total of 15 personnel were employed by Japan as a national support element. In addition, 85 military observers from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) assisted the Force in carrying out its tasks. A map showing the deployment of the Force is attached to the present report.

III. Financial aspects

7. By its resolution 60/277 of 30 June 2006, the General Assembly appropriated the amount of $39.9 million for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007. The proposed budget for UNDOF for the financial period commencing 1 July 2007 amounting to $39.6 million, equivalent to $3.3 million per month, is currently under consideration by the General Assembly. Should the Council decide to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 30 June 2007, as recommended in paragraph 12 below, the cost of maintaining the Force would be limited to the monthly amounts approved by the General Assembly.

8. As at 31 March 2007, unpaid assessed contributions to the UNDOF special account for the period from the inception of the Force to 31 March 2007 amounted to $20.8 million. Total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at the same date amounted to $1.8 billion. As at 31 March 2007, amounts owed to troop contributors for UNDOF totalled $1.1 million. Troop and contingent-owned equipment costs have been reimbursed for the periods up to 28 February 2007 and 31 December 2006, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

IV. Implementation of Security Council resolution 338 (1973)

9. The Security Council, when deciding in its resolution 1729 (2006) to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a further period of six months, until 30 June 2007, also called upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973), and requested the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of the period, a report on developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement that resolution. The search for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, and in particular the efforts undertaken at various levels to implement resolution 338 (1973), was dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East (A/61/298) submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 60/40 and 60/41.

V. Observations

10. The situation in the Israel-Syria sector has remained generally quiet. UNDOF, which was established in May 1974 to supervise the ceasefire called for by the

Security Council and the agreement on disengagement between Syrian and Israeli forces of 31 May 1974, has continued to perform its function effectively, with the cooperation of the parties.

11. Nevertheless, the situation in the Middle East is tense and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached. I hope that determined efforts will be made by all concerned to tackle the problem in all its aspects, with a view to arriving at a just and durable peace settlement, as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 338 (1973).

12. Under the prevailing circumstances, I consider the continued presence of UNDOF in the area to be essential. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Force for a further period of six months, until 31 December 2007. The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has given its assent to the proposed extension. The Government of Israel has also expressed its agreement.

13. In making this recommendation, I must draw attention to the shortfall in the funding of the Force. At present, unpaid assessments amount to some $1.1 million. The sum represents money owed to the Member States that contribute the troops who make up the Force. I appeal to all Member States to pay their assessments promptly and in full and to clear all remaining arrears.

14. In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to Major General Wolfgang Jilke and to the men and women serving with UNDOF and UNTSO. They have performed with efficiency and devotion to duty the important tasks assigned to them by the Security Council. I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Governments contributing troops to UNDOF and to those which provide the UNTSO military observers assigned to the Force.

وزع قوة الأمم المتحدة لمراقبة فض الاشتباك في جولان/يونيه ٢٠٠٧
2007 年 6 月观察员部队的部署
UNDOF DEPLOYMENT AS OF JUNE 2007
DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA FNUOD AU MOIS DE JUIN 2007
ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ СООННР ПО СОСТОЯНИЮ НА ИЮНЬ 2007
DESPLIEGUE DE LA FNUOS EN JUNIO 2007
LEBANON
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
JORDAN
GOLAN HEIGHTS
AUSTRIA
SLOVAKIA
POLAND
INDIA - JAPAN (-)
AUSTRIA - SLOVAKIA (-)
HQ UNDOF
LOG INDIA - JAPAN
HQ OGG
MP "B"
HQ Force Reserve
MP "A"
MP "C"
POLBATT
Camp Faouar
Camp Ziouani
Line "Alpha"
Line "Alpha 1"
Line "Bravo"
Trans-Arabian Pipeline
Majdal Shams
Shab'a
'Arnah
Bayt Jinn
Hadar
Ḥarfā
Sa'sa'
Kanākir
Taranjah
Jabāta al Khashab
Mas'adah
Buq'ātā
Khān Arnabah
Jabā
Hamidiyah
Mansoura
Wāsit
Masharah
Kafr Nāsij
Kafr Shams
Al Qunaytirah
Umm Bāṭinah
Umm Tīnah
Ayn Ziwān
Ar Ruwayḥinah
Nab aş Şakhr
Kafr Naffākh
Bi'r al 'Ajam
Al Ḥārrah
Burayqah
Fazarah
Kudnah
Al Khushniyah
Al Asbah
Qāsim
Ar Rafīd
Butmiyah
Jūkhadār
Nawā
Khisfīn
Tasil
Kefar el Ma
Al 'Al
Fiq
Umm Sharq
Ash Sajarah
Saḥam al Jawlān
Tafas
55 نقطة مراقبة للأمم المتحدة
联合国观察所
United Nations observation post
Poste d'observation de l'ONU
Наблюдательный пункт ООН
Puesto de observación de las Naciones Unidas
60 مركز للأمم المتحدة
联合国部队的位置
United Nations position
Position de l'ONU
Позиция ООН
Posicion de las Naciones Unidas
الحدود الفاصلة بين الكتائب
各营之间界限
Inter-battalion boundary
Limite entre des bataillons de la Force
Разделительная линия между батальонами
Limites entre batallones de la Feurza
PALESTINE BELT GRID
The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
Map No. 2916 Rev. 63 UNITED NATIONS
June 2007 (Colour)
Department of Peacekeeping Operations
Cartographic Section